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From: elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!usc!sdd.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!hp!extra!hpfcso!  
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Subject: What is circular polarization?  
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> I understand horizontal and vertical porlarization of an antenna or RF  
> signal. I am just getting interested in satellites and don't understand  
> circular polarization. What is circular polarization, and right or  
> left circular polarization?

Circular polarization means that the orientation of the plane of the E-field  
(which is the normal reference for stating polarization) changes with time; it  
rotates. The best way to understand it is to look at one of the more common  
antennas which produces this form of polarization, the helical. "Right" or  
"left" circular polarization simply refers to the "direction of the spin" -  
analogous to right and left-hand threads on screws.

Bob Myers	KC0EW	Hewlett-Packard Co.	Opinions expressed here are not
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